



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

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GAIN Report #TH2073

## **Thailand**

### **Grain and Feed**

### **Weekly Rice Price Update**

**2002**

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**Weekly rice price and trade update.**

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1], TH

## INDICATIVE PRICES (WEEK ENDING SEP 2):

THAILAND: EXPORT (FOB) PRICES FOR VARIOUS GRADES OF RICE (USD/M.T.)									
	EXPORTER OBSERVATIONS							PERIOD AVG.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	375	350	394	368	340	360	360	364	357
WR 100 B	198	198	199	196	198	196	193	197	197
PB 5%	198	193	196	196	195	199	198	196	197
WR 5%	193	193	193	191	193	191	188	192	191
WR 10%	189	188	188	189	188	188	183	188	188
WR 15%	186	186	184	186	183	183	178	184	184
WR 25%	176	180	181	179	175	171	173	176	176
WR 35%	171	177	179	177	170	167	168	173	172
A 1 SUP	151	150	150	149	150	149	148	150	150
A 1 SPEC	150	148	149	148	149	NQ	146	148	148
SOURCE: AVERAGE ACTUAL PRICES ARE RECEIVED FROM EXPORTERS									

## MARKET TONE

EXPORT PRICES FOR MOST GRADES OF RICE WERE UNCHANGED EXCEPT THOSE FOR FRAGRANT RICE WHICH CONTINUED ITS UPWARD TREND DUE TO THE SMALLER AVAILABILITIES OF SUPPLY IN THE MARKET. TRADE SOURCES REPORTED THAT MOST OF THE RICE (APPROXIMATELY 3 MILLION TONS) IS IN GOVERNMENT WAREHOUSES AS A RESULT OF THE DOMESTIC PRICE INTERVENTION PROGRAM. CONSEQUENTLY, SOME EXPORTERS WITH LOW LEVELS OF STOCKS ARE RELUCTANT TO COMMIT TO SALES CONTRACTS UNLESS THE EXPORT PRICES MOVE UPWARD.

THE FOLLOWING ARE REPORTED RICE EXPORTS (AS IS BASIS):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
AUG 3	63,962	75,196	3,559	3,780
AUG 10	64,761	70,290	3,624	3,943
AUG 17	72,623	68,666	3,696	4,075
AUG 24	102,452	94,279	3,799	4,248
AUG 31	98,541	84,594	3,897	4,381

UNOFFICIAL EXPORTS FOR AUG 25 - AUG 31 TOTALED 98,541 TONS, DOWN 3,911 TONS FROM THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND UP 13,947 TONS FROM THE FOUR WEEK MOVING AVERAGE OF 84,594 TONS. EXPORTS DURING JAN 1- AUG 31 AMOUNTED TO 3,897,243 TONS, DOWN 11 % FROM THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 2001.

DESPITE THE RECENT CONFIRMATION OF INDONESIA'S PLAN TO PURCHASE 500,000 TONS OF 15% BROKEN RICE FROM THE THAI GOVERNMENT IN A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT DEAL, OF WHICH 300,000 TONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN CONTRACTED FOR SHIPMENT OF 50,000 TONS PER MONTH, STARTING NOVEMBER 2002 UNTIL APRIL 2003. DESPITE THE ACTIVE MARKET DEMAND EXPECTED DURING THE REST OF THIS YEAR, TRADE SOURCES REPORT THAT RICE EXPORTS IN CY 2002 WILL LIKELY FALL SHORT OF THE RECORD 7.7 MILLION TONS IN CY 2001. THE EXPORT CONTRACTION MAINLY REFLECTS (1) RELATIVELY HIGHER DOMESTIC PRICES IN RESPONSE TO THE HEAVY GOVERNMENT DOMESTIC PRICE INTERVENTION, (2) STRONG COMPETITION FROM CHEAPER INDIAN RICE AND (3) THE INITIATION OF THAI GOVERNMENT JASMINE RICE GRADES AND STANDARDS WHICH MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR THAI EXPORTERS TO MEET THESE EXPORT REQUIREMENTS.